

BRITISH STUDENTS' UNION

DARK' ON CIA AID

FUNDS SENT TO WORLD BODY

BY OUR EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE future "image" of the 370,000-strong National Union of Students in the international field is likely to be the main subject of debate when the union meets for its autumn council at Margate next month.

An executive sub-committee report of the union, published to-day, says the International Student Conference has received indirect financial help from the Central Intelligence Agency, the American Secret Service.

The report says the link, which ceased after February this year was unknown to members of the union, which is affiliated to the conference.

It says a "pipeline" for funds was supplied by the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs, whose headquarters are in New York. In 1965 the conference received nearly £100,000 from this organisation.

The question of the conference alleged financing by the CIA was debated by the union in Liverpool last April. There the executive was instructed to make a full examination of the allegations and report back in November.

Nairobi project

The conference's own "inquest" on its previous association with the CIA has not yet been published in full. The investigation was conducted by a six-man team from Ghana, Malaysia, Costa Rica, Ireland, Belgium and Britain.

Its main findings appear today in *New Student*, the organ of the National Union of Students.

There is it stated that the last ISC project financed by the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs or the San Jacinto Fund—another charitable organisation believed to be linked with the CIA—was a conference in Nairobi in August, 1966.

"It does seem," says the summary, "that European countries are now taking an interest in contributing funds for the conference and if this is so, the ISC will survive the effects of the CIA report without many adverse effects."

"But it will emerge as an organisation whose purpose is to carry out constructive programmes of student co-operation rather than to take postures in the cold war."

Executive speakers at Margate will argue a case for remaining in, and helping to reform, the conference.

London Daily Telegraph
20 October 1967